

Whereas national, State, territorial, and tribal coalitions, community-based rape crisis centers, and other organizations across the United States are committed to—

(1) increasing public awareness of sexual violence and the prevalence of sexual violence; and

(2) eliminating sexual violence through prevention and education;

Whereas important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, health professionals, public health workers, educators, first responders, and victim service providers;

Whereas thousands of volunteers and staff at rape crisis centers, State coalitions against sexual assault, and nonprofit organizations across the United States play an important role in making crisis hotlines and other services available to survivors of sexual assault;

Whereas free, confidential help is available to all victims and survivors of sexual assault through—

(1) the National Sexual Assault Hotline—

(A) by telephone at 800-656-HOPE; and

(B) online at <https://hotline.rainn.org>;

and

(2) more than 1,000 sexual assault service providers across the United States;

Whereas the National Sexual Assault Hotline—

(1) in 2017, helped nearly 210,000 survivors of sexual assault, which represented the greatest number of survivors assisted through the hotline since the founding of the hotline in 1994; and

(2) continues to receive record requests for support in 2018;

Whereas the Department of Defense provides the Safe Helpline, Safe HelpRoom, and Safe Helpline mobile application, each of which offer support and help to members of the Department of Defense community—

(1) by telephone at 877-995-5247; and

(2) online at <https://safehelpline.org>;

Whereas individual and collective efforts reflect the dream of the people of the United States—

(1) for individuals and organizations to actively work to prevent all forms of sexual violence; and

(2) for no victim of sexual assault to be unserved or feel that there is no path to justice; and

Whereas April 2018 is recognized as “National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month provides a special opportunity to—

(i) educate the people of the United States about sexual violence; and

(ii) encourage—

(I) the prevention of sexual assault;

(II) improvement in the treatment of survivors of sexual assault; and

(III) the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual assault;

(B) it is appropriate to properly acknowledge survivors of sexual assault and to commend the volunteers and professionals who assist those survivors in their efforts to heal;

(C) national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in—

(i) promoting awareness about sexual assault;

(ii) providing information and treatment to survivors of sexual assault; and

(iii) increasing the number of successful prosecutions of perpetrators of sexual assault; and

(D) public safety, law enforcement, and health professionals should be recognized and applauded for their hard work and inno-

vative strategies to ensure perpetrators of sexual assault are held accountable; and

(2) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 500—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION BY THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL IN THE CASE OF PETER P. TRUMAN V. PAULA ARMSTRONG, ET AL

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 500

Whereas, two Senate employees, Paula Armstrong and Edie Smith, have been named as defendants in the case of *Peter P. Truman v. Paula Armstrong, et al.*, D. Me., currently on appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, No. 18-1095; and

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend employees of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Paula Armstrong and Edie Smith in the case of *Peter P. Truman v. Paula Armstrong, et al.*

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Democratic leader, Mr. SCHUMER, I send to the desk a resolution authorizing representation by the Senate Legal Counsel and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, this resolution concerns a pro se civil action filed in Maine Federal court against two employees of Senator KING’s office regarding claims arising out of volunteer assistance the pro se plaintiff provided to that office. The District Court, on its own initiative, dismissed the lawsuit without needing to hear from the defendants, and the plaintiff has filed a notice of appeal.

This resolution would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel to represent the Senate employees in that appeal in order to seek dismissal of the appeal or affirmance of the lower court’s dismissal of this suit.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I have 4 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session

of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing on S. 2644 and S. 2559 and following nominations: Mark Jeremy Bennett, of Hawaii, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy E. Brasel, and Eric C. Tostrud, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, Robert R. Summerhays, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, and Gregory Allyn Forest, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina, and Bradley A. Maxwell, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois, both of the Department of Justice.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 2 p.m. to conduct a closed hearing.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight of HHS and DHS Effort to Protect Unaccompanied Alien Children from Human Trafficking and Abuse.”

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Alexandra Webb, an intern in the office of Senator SULLIVAN, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SECOND CHANCE MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 440.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 440) designating April 2018 as “Second Chance Month.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 440) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 20, 2018, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)